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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

13 June 1964

Dear Brock:

On May 25th you wrote to me suggesting the possibility of using the ATLAS-AGENA type of platform as a launching vehicle for the CORONA payload. This would replace the THOR-AGENA booster.

I will be interested in the results of the analysis which you indicate in the final sentence of your letter are in process at the present time.

At first glance it appears to me that additional costs and the availability of the ATLAS-AGENA combinations might weigh heavily in the decision. This would be particularly true if there are developing increasing

I appreciate this suggestion was made during the darkest hours of CORONA troubles. Perhaps the recent success will also influence the final decision. In any event, please let me hear from you when this study is finished so that we can reach a conclusion, and certainly we must do all possible to improve the dependability of the CORONA.

Sincerely,

Director

Dr. Brockway McMillan
Director, NRO
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C.
cc: SecDef

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